



First United Methodist Church of **Hanford**

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



"The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections."



A Reconciling Congregation

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**Pastor: Rev. Pastor Pablo R. Vargas
Music Director: Cavan O'Neill**

Sunday Morning Worship Service - 8.16.2026
Lay Worship Leader- Jim Shoemaker

Words of Welcome & Announcements
Centering Time (Preparing Our Hearts & Minds for Worship)
Opening Prayer

Responsive Call to Worship

Family of God, we gather today to unite our voices and our lives in praise to God!

How good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity!

We gather to celebrate how God binds us together to live, work, play, and rest as the Body of Christ!

How good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity!

We gather to remember how God has worked through us to share Christ's love with one another and our neighbors through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

How good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity!

Family of God, today we come as diverse and unique members of the Body of Christ to learn and grow not in uniformity but in unity to love God, self, neighbor, and all creation.

How good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity! Thanks be to God! Amen.

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

Praise Team

Passing the Peace of Christ (with hugs, handshakes, fist bumps, etc.)

Pastoral Welcome and Prayer

"Breathe"

Praise Team

**** "Children are dismissed at this time****

Scripture Reading- Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Leader: *This is the Word of our Lord.* **People:** **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: "Recovering the Missional Imagination of Acts" **Pastor Pablo V.**

Prayer of Confession:

O God, we yearn to be a community of believers,
united in your Spirit. And yet we are fraught with divisions:
denominational, political, theological. We are weighed down by tensions and
the things that break us apart.

Forgive us, great God, for this great sin.

Help us to learn to live in community together,
loving one another, in spite of our differences,
and respecting one another in everything that we do and say.

Help us to be as you call us, one in heart and mind.

Only through the grace of your son, Jesus Christ, can we achieve this.

Amen

"Glorify Thy Name"

Praise Team

Offering Prayer (In Unison)

Gracious God, you pour your blessing upon your people like dew upon the
earth and oil upon the head, flowing beyond all boundaries we would draw.
We thank you for the gift of unity—good and pleasant, beautiful and
life-giving—meant not only for us, but for the healing of the world. Receive
these offerings as signs of our desire to live together in your love, to practice
radical welcome, and to share your abundance with all your children. Let

what we give today flow outward in compassion and service, that our life together may reflect your kingdom of peace, justice, and joy. Amen.

Invitation to give Our Tithes and Offering

Doxology

Benediction (*Stay Afterwards for Coffee Hour*)